MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): (*a*) Efficiency is the criterion for appointment as Official Receivers but to the extent possible communal representation is also taken into account.

(*b*) Yes.

Stray cattle.

106. *MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware of the great damage done by the stray cattle and sheep to the cultivators in Muvattupuzha taluk; and

(*b*) the number of cattle pounds now existing in Muvattupuzha taluk?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: (*a*) A petition from some of the inhabitants of the Kothamangalam and Kuttamangalam pakuthies of the Muvattupuzha taluk was received by Government.

(*b*) None at present. Government have, however, sanctioned the opening of a cattle pound at Kavalangad.

Adult Education.

107. *MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: Will the Government be pleased to state: what steps have been taken by them to promote adult education in this country?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: The education of the adults in this State is carried on at present through the medium of (1) Night Schools (2) Departmental Rural Libraries and (3) Private Reading Rooms and Libraries.

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: May I know whether any of these mediums are employed in North Travancore especially in the Kottayam Division?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: We have on the whole 70 night schools, 100 rural libraries and 70 private libraries. I am unable to say at this moment, without notice how they are distributed.

St. Roche's Convent, Sankumukom, Trivandrum.

108. *MR. P. M. VARGHESE: Will the Government be pleased to state.

(*a*) whether application has been received from St. Roche's Convent Middle School for Girls at Sankumukom, Trivandrum, for permission to raise it to a High School;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, when was the petition received; and

(*c*) if the answer is in the negative, what are the reasons for the rejection?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 7-2-1945.

(*c*) The application is under consideration.

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MR. P. M. VARGHESE: What are we to understand by the expression "under consideration"? How long is to be "under consideration"?

MR. A. NARAYANAN TAMPI: I would invite the attention of the honourable member to the fact that the petition was received only on the 7th February and certainly it cannot be decided so soon. It has to be sent to the Inspectress of Schools for report. Only after her report is received can the question be considered.

Famine Enquiry Commission.

109. * **MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Famine Enquiry Commission appointed by the Government of India visited Trivandrum;

(*b*) how many days the Commission stayed in Trivandrum;

(*c*) whether the Commission took any evidence in Trivandrum or in any other part of the State;

(*d*) the persons whom the Commission met in Travancore;

(*e*) who arranged such meetings; and

(*f*) whether any members of the Legislature were invited by the Government to meet the Commission, if so who they were?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) During the 3rd week of October 1944.

(*b*) Four days.

(*c*) No. Their visit was purely informal and was intended to study conditions and not to hold any enquiry or to take evidence.

(*d*) Both officials and non-officials.

(*e*) The Government.

(*f*) Yes. The members of the Food Advisory Committee including some members of the Legislature were informed that the members of the Commission would like to meet them informally.

Their names are:—

1. Mr. M. Govindan
2. „ K. G. Narayana Panicker
3. „ K. A. Raman Pillai
4. „ K Shahul Hameed
5. „ S. Chattanatha Karayalar
6. „ C. S. Lakshmana Aiyar
7. „ K. Sukumaran
8. „ A. N. Satyanesan
9. „ V. S. Krishna Pillai
10. „ M. Sivathanu Pillai
11. „ G. Narayana Aiyar
12. „ K. P. Amrithanatha Aiyar
13. Srimati T. Narayani Amma

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